

T-215
Langdon; Bridges
7373 Tilghman Island Rd
Tilghman Vicinity
Ca. 1929
Private

Note: This appends the MHT survey form for T-215 written in 1977 for the main residence, Seth Family graveyards, and domestic grounds.

This farm is located on Harris Creek, off of Tilghman Island Road to the north of Tilghman Island in Talbot County, Maryland. There are eighteen buildings on the property, consisting of the main house, the overseers' house, a springhouse, a wood shed, a garage, a chicken house, a greenhouse, a smokehouse, a slaughter house, a storage building, a machine shed, a barn, and a linear complex containing a stable, a carriage house, a storage shed, a machine shed, a granary, and a corncrib.

Langdon represents an intact collection of agricultural buildings associated with the historically important trend towards "gentleman's farms" during the early 20th century in Talbot County. The property known as Langdon, (also known as "Bridges" or "Hebron" prior to the 20th century) was purchased by Mabel Lindsay Gillespie, the Pittsburgh heiress to a lumber fortune, from S. James Sewell in 1929. Gillespie developed the entire farm complex as a summer home for herself and her mother with the assistance of an unknown Pittsburgh architect. Improvements included a new manor house (possibly around the original farm house structure or foundation) and also a slaughter house, corn crib, stables, and a chicken coop. The farm buildings appear to be architect-designed and are atypical examples of their typology. Alvin E. Strock purchased the farm from the Gillespie estate in 1969. The land was subdivided into ten tracts and subsequently sold by Strock in 1971 with the 1929 farmstead and main house intact on a single lot.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. T-215

1. Name of Property

historic Langdon Farm Complex; Bridges
other Hebron

2. Location

street and number 7373 Tilghman Island Rd N/A not for publication
city, town Tilghman X vicinity
county Talbot

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name John R. and Suzanne S. Whitmore
street and number P.O. Box 18 telephone 410-745-6382
city, town Sherwood state MD zip code 21665

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 914 folio 891 and liber 952 folio 400
city, town Easton tax map 38/5 tax parcel 41 tax ID number 192188

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☒ Other: Previous MHT Inventory of Historic Properties Form

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<u>18</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>0</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	buildings
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	sites
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			<u>1</u>

7. Description

Inventory No. T-215

Condition

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary Description

The property is located on Harris Creek, off of Tilghman Island Road to the north of Tilghman Island in Talbot County, Maryland. There are eighteen contributing buildings on the property, consisting of the main house, the overseers' house, a springhouse, a wood shed, a garage, a chicken house, a greenhouse, a smokehouse, a slaughter house, a storage building, a machine shed, a barn, and a long block containing a stable, a carriage house, a storage shed, a machine shed, a granary, and a corncrib. These resources are located to the west of the main residence, outside of the wood post and rail fence, off of the entry drive. A related tenant house is located on an adjacent tract of land.

The main house is a two-story high-style Colonial Revival brick masonry residence constructed c. 1929-1930 with a five part plan. The house has had minimal alterations since its original construction and retains the majority of its historic building fabric. The residence is separated from the agricultural complex by a wood post and rail fence, gardens, and an agricultural field.

The main residence is located approximately one-eighth of a mile down a straight paved access road. The agricultural buildings are located off of the access road to the south and are arranged in a linear plan than forms a square farmyard. The tenant house is located to the south of the agricultural complex and is accessed via a separated paved road. The property is surrounded by cultivated agricultural fields and water. The property is an active farm.

Note: Langdon was originally surveyed in 1977 by Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant with the Maryland Historical Trust. The property was recorded as "Bridges," with the alternate name of "Hebron." During this survey effort, the main residence, Seth Family graveyards, and domestic grounds were documented, though no photographs were taken at the property owner's request. The house was recorded as being an eighteenth century structure during the 1977 survey, but this information could not be verified. According to the current property owner and farm manager the house was constructed by Ms. Gillespie before 1932. At the current property owner's request, the main house and grounds as well as the overseers' house and associated springhouse, wood shed, and garage were not included in this survey and no photographs were taken of these structures.

Chicken House, ca. 1930

The chicken house, constructed ca. 1930, is currently used as a recreation building. The building is a one-story light timber frame structure with a central passage single-pile plan. The building rests on a continuous concrete masonry unit foundation with a one-foot curb around the perimeter. The walls are clad with vertical wood planks. The cross-gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles and has two square cupolas and a projecting hayloft. The building is accessed through new French doors on the north and south façades. The window openings have been infilled with six-over-six vinyl sashes. The interior of the building is finished with drywall and has a poured concrete floor. A modern metal frame greenhouse is attached to the east façade.

Smokehouse, ca. 1930

The smokehouse, constructed ca. 1930, is currently used as a recreation building. The building is a one-story brick masonry structure with an undivided interior space. The building rests on a continuous brick foundation. The walls are constructed of brick using a Flemish bond and have vents worked into the brick pattern. The pyramidal roof is clad with wood shingles and has a metal ventilator. The building is accessed through a wood plank door on the east façade. The interior of the building is finished with a brick floor.

Slaughterhouse, ca. 1930

The slaughterhouse, constructed ca. 1930, is currently used as an office and shop. The building is a one-story light timber frame structure with a three pen plan. The building rests on a continuous concrete masonry unit foundation. The walls are clad with horizontal wood siding. The side gable roof has a steep pitch and is clad with asphalt shingles. The building is accessed through hinged wood plank doors with twelve lights on all façades and metal roll up doors into the central pen.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. T-215

Langdon; Bridges
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

There is an interior brick masonry incinerator chimney on the west façade. The windows are six-over-nine and eight-over-twelve wood sashes. The interior of the building is unfinished and has a poured concrete floor.

The interior of the building contains the original steel rail that allows the meat to be slid from the slaughterhouse floor into a cooler located in the northwest corner of the office. The meat locker is clad in vertical wood siding and has a three inches thick door. A mechanism lifts a wood flap above the door allowing the hook to slide freely when the meat locker door is opened approximately 130 degrees. The meat locker was manufactured by the Bernard Gloekler Company, which was located at 1627-1633 Penn Avenue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Storage Building, ca. 1930

The storage building, constructed ca. 1930, is a one-story light timber frame structure with an undivided interior space. The building rests on a continuous concrete masonry unit foundation. The walls are clad with horizontal wood siding. The overhanging front-gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles. The building is accessed through hinged wood plank doors on the east and south façades. A wooden loading dock is also located on the east façade. The windows are six-over-six wood sashes and six-pane wood hopper sashes. The interior of the building is unfinished and has a wood plank floor.

Machinery Shed, date unknown

A machinery shed is located on the west façade of the storage building. It is five bays wide and is of timber frame construction with an open south façade. The shed rests on a combination pier and continuous poured concrete foundation. The walls are clad with horizontal wood siding. The side gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles. There are no doors or windows. The interior of the building is unfinished with an earthen floor.

Stable, ca. 1910; Carriage House, ca. 1910; Storage, ca. 1930; Machinery Shed, ca. 1930; Granary, ca. 1930; and Corncrib, date unknown

The western edge of the farmyard is enclosed by a long block of buildings primarily constructed ca. 1930. The exceptions to this date are the two spaces at the northern end, the stable and the carriage house, which have been reclad and integrated into the block. The building is designed to give the appearance of a building that grew over time, with different rooflines and doors. The block rests on a continuous concrete masonry unit foundation. The walls are clad with horizontal wood siding. The gable roofs are clad with asphalt shingles. The spaces are described from north to south.

The stable is three bays wide and is of timber frame construction. There are no doors and the windows are six-over-six wood sashes. The interior of the building is unfinished with an earthen floor. Eight wooden animal pens with feed troughs are located within the space.

The carriage house is three bays wide and is of timber frame construction with stone masonry piers in the interior. The doors are modern hinged replacements and there are no windows. The interior of the building is unfinished with an earthen floor.

The storage space is a one-story light timber frame structure with an undivided interior space. The building is accessed through a hinged wood plank door with six lights on the east façade. The windows are six-pane wood hopper sashes. The interior of the building is unfinished and has a wood plank floor.

The machinery shed is three bays wide and is of timber frame construction with an open east façade. There are no doors or windows. The interior of the building is unfinished with an earthen floor.

Maryland Historical Trust

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Inventory No. T-215

Langdon; Bridges
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

The granary is a one-and-a-half story light timber frame structure with an undivided interior space. The building is accessed through two hinged wood plank Dutch doors with twelve lights on the east façade. The windows are six-over-six wood sashes and six-pane wood awning sashes. The interior of the building is unfinished and has a wood plank floor. Seven large raised wooden grain bins, two of which have been screened in, are located within the space.

The drive-thru corncrib is a one-story timber frame structure with a concrete masonry unit pier foundation. The walls are clad with six-inch vertical wood boards, spaced approximately three inches apart. Metal wire fills in the space between the boards. The crib is accessed through a hinged wood plank door on the east façade. The interior of the building is unfinished with a wood plank floor.

Barn, ca. 1939

The corncrib connects to the multi-purpose barn, constructed ca. 1939, with a rear animal pen addition. The building was significantly altered when a new access road was constructed to the east of the barn. The length of the building was shortened by 15 feet to 30 feet and the roof was replaced. The structure rests on a continuous concrete masonry unit foundation. The timber frame structure is clad with vertical wood siding. The front-gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles. The barn has a hay hood on the east gable end. The Dutch doors are hinged wood plank with diagonal bracing and twelve lights. Sliding wood plank doors are located on the gable ends. The windows are nine-pane wood hopper sashes. The interior of the building is unfinished with a poured concrete floor and metal animal pens.

8. Significance

Inventory No. T-215

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates 1920-1939

Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates ca. 1929-1930

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary Statement of Significance

Langdon represents the area of Agriculture between the years 1930 to 1940. The intact collection of eighteen agricultural buildings at Langdon is associated with the historically important trend towards the establishment of "gentleman farms" in Talbot County during the first half of the 20th century. This coincides with the development of model farms and country estates owned by wealthy immigrants to Talbot County during the Post-War Recession, the Great Depression, and the New Deal (1920-1939) agricultural periods in Talbot County's history. The property retains several buildings that are the typical building types associated with a general farming operation in Talbot County during this period, though they are atypical examples as they appear to have been architect designed. Both the slaughterhouse and the large brick smokehouse are especially rare and noteworthy example of their building type in Talbot County.

Historical Background

The property known as Langdon, and also known as "Bridges" or "Hebron" prior to the twentieth century, was purchased by S. James Sewell from Blanche L. Butler and Louisa S. Ensey in 1926. Mabel Lindsay Gillespie, the Pittsburgh heiress to a large lumber fortune, purchased the property from S. James Sewell in 1929 and developed the entire farm complex as a summer home for herself and her mother with the assistance of an unknown Pittsburgh architect. Ms. Gillespie re-developed the entire property, building a new manor house (possibly around the original farm house structure or foundation) and also adding a slaughterhouse, corn crib, stables, and a chicken coop. The farm buildings also appear to be architect-designed and are atypical examples of their typology. Alvin E. Strock purchased the farm from the Gillespie's estate in 1969. The land was subdivided into ten tracts and subsequently sold by Strock in 1971 with the 1929 farmstead and main house intact on a single lot. The property is still an active farm.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. T-215

- Lanier, Gabrielle M. and Bernard L. Herman. *Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic: Looking at Buildings and Landscapes*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.
- Nobel, Allen G. and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1997.
- Rawson, Richard. *Old Barn Plans*. New York: Bonanza Books, 1979.
- Talbot County Land Records
- Weeks, Christopher. *Where Land and Water Intertwine: An Architectural History of Talbot County, Maryland*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1984.
- Whitaker, James H. *Agricultural Buildings and Structures*. Reston, Va.: Reston Publishing Co., 1979.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	143.52	
Acreage of historical setting	143.52	
Quadrangle name	Claiborne, MD	Quadrangle scale: 1: 24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the surveyed property is marked as current boundary as described on Talbot County Tax Map 38, Grid 5, Parcel 41. The existing parcel portion is concurrent with the historic setting, and includes character-defining resources and setting which relate to the property's construction and evolution.

11. Form Prepared by

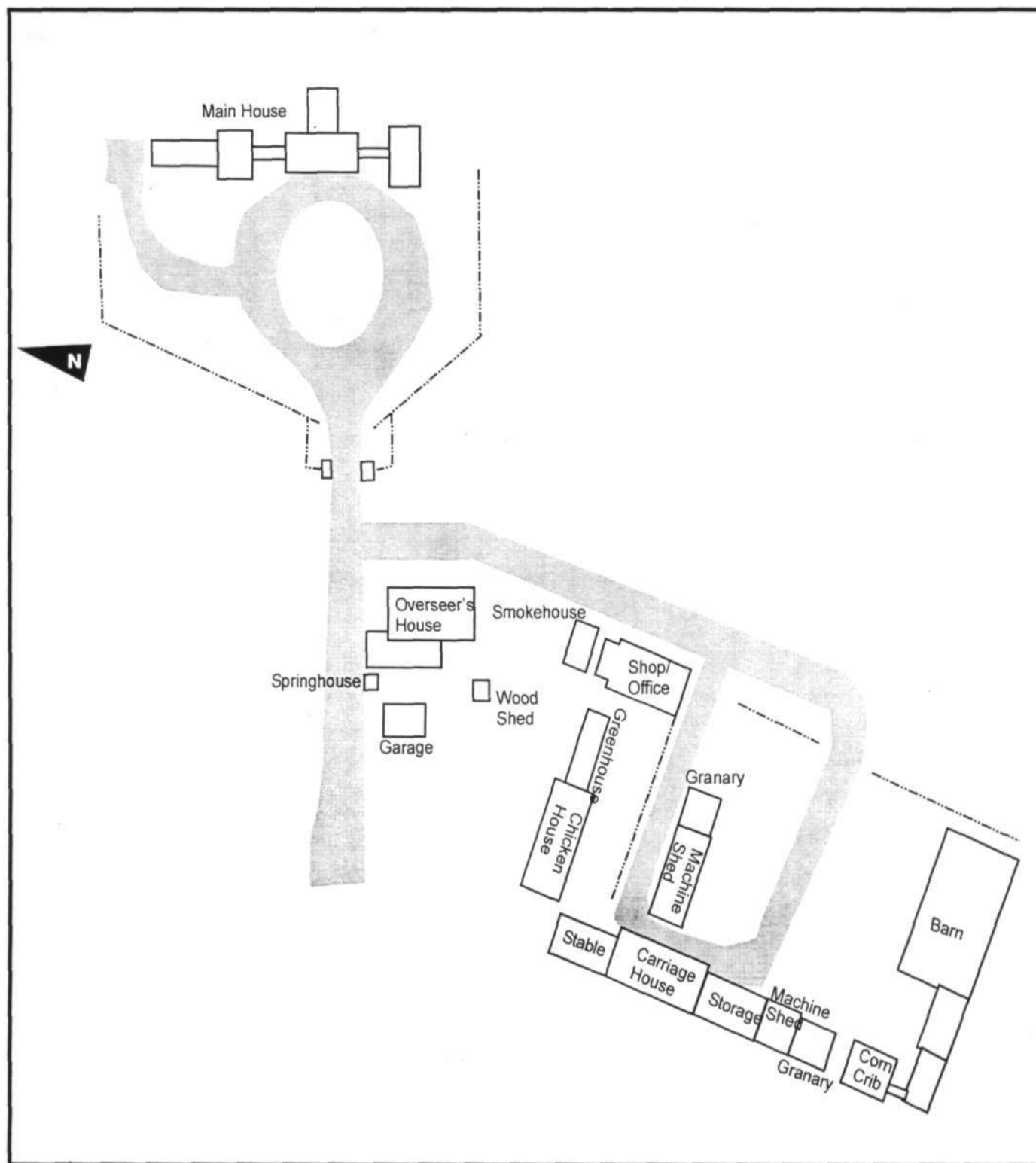
name/title	Amy Barnes, Architectural Historian		
organization	URS Corporation	date	12-08-03
street & number	7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700	telephone	301.652.2215
city or town	Bethesda	state	MD 20814

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

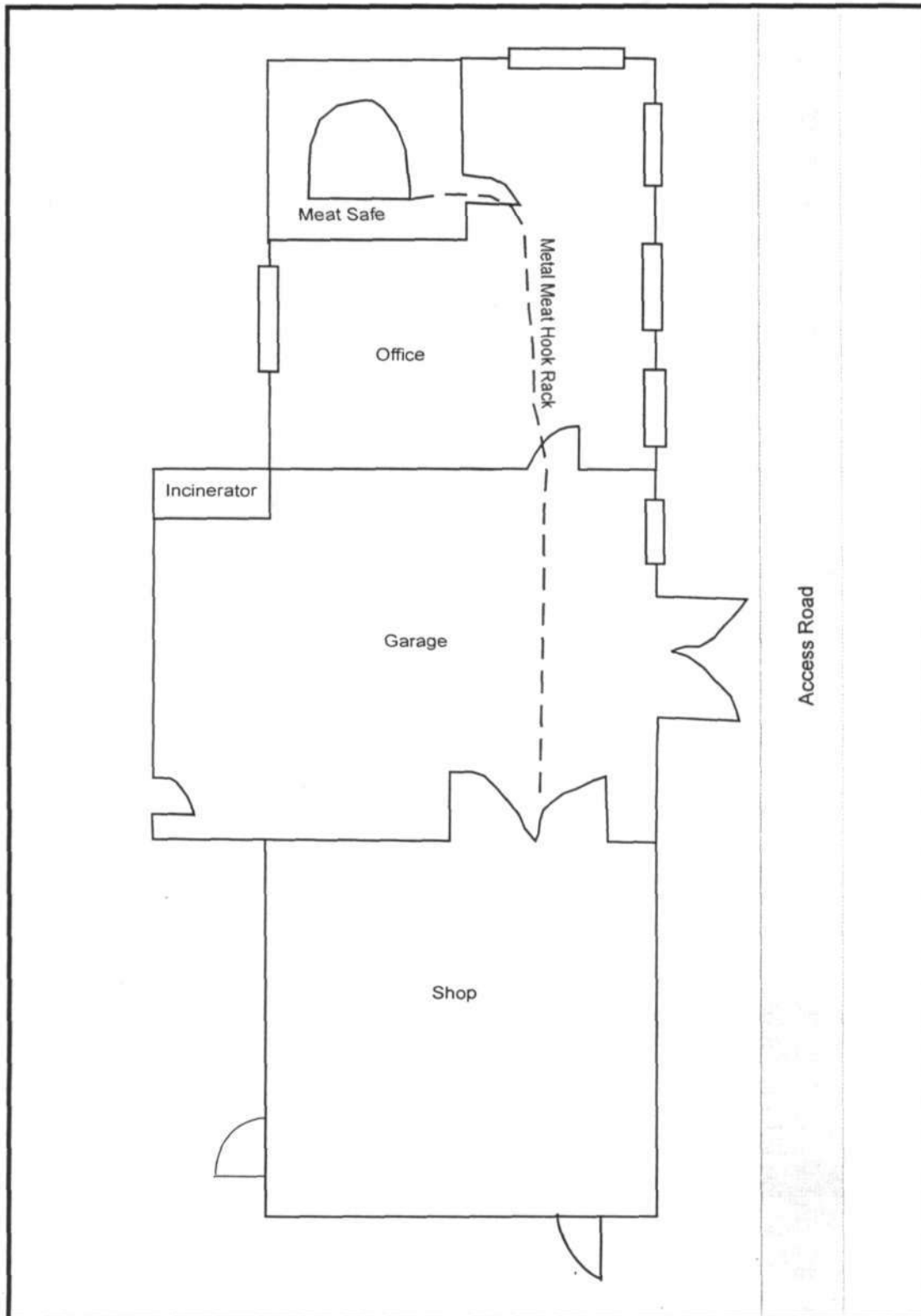
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

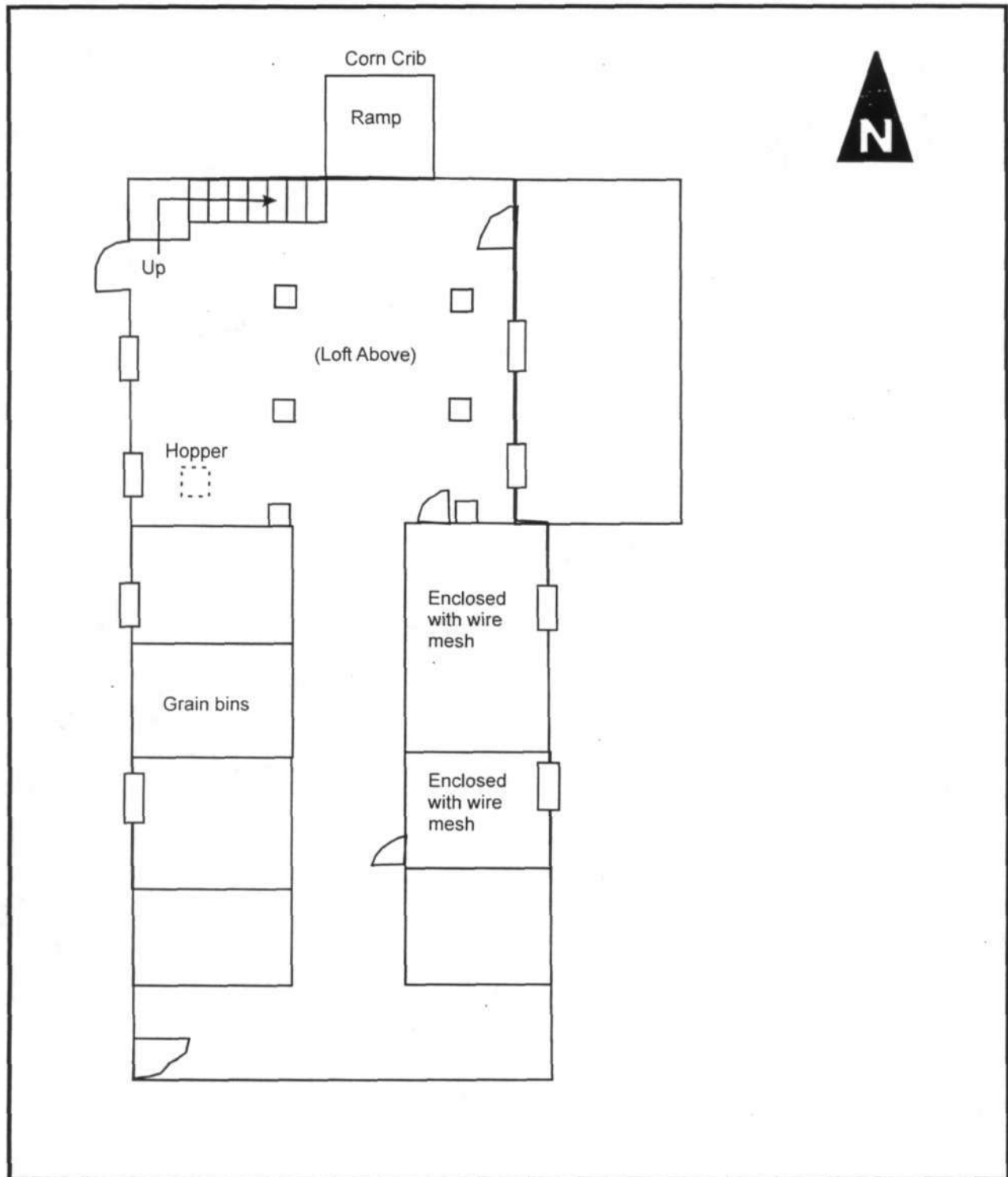
T-215
Langdon; Bridges
7373 Tilghman Island Road
Talbot County
Site Plan - 2003



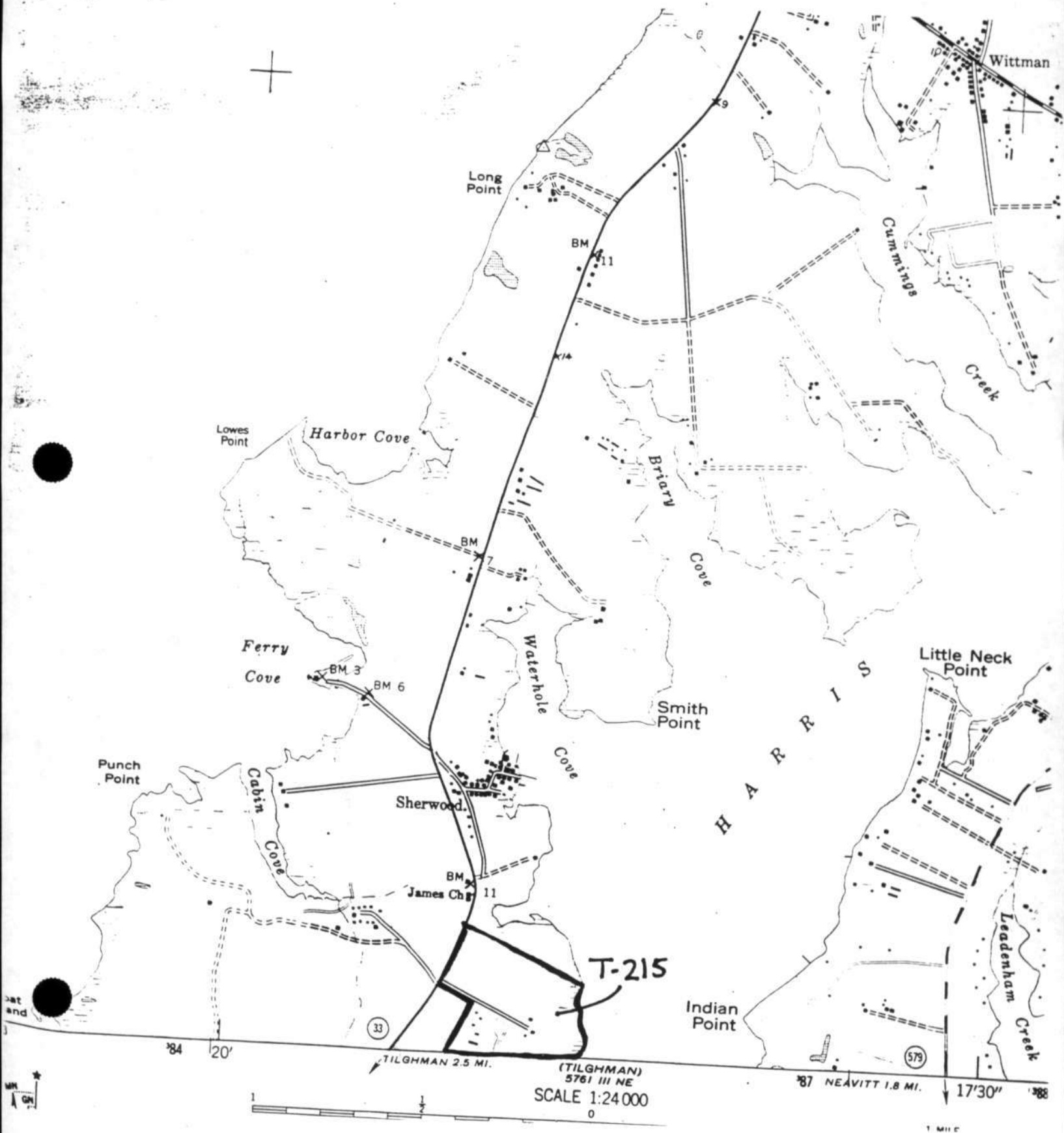
T-215
Langdon, Bridges
7373 Tilghman Island Road
Talbot County
Office Plan - 2003



T-215
Langdon; Bridges
7373 Tilghman Island Road
Talbot County
Granary Plan - 2003



T-215
Langdon Farm Complex
Claiborne, MD USGS Quad (1: 24,000)





T-215

Langdon Farm Complex
Talbot Co. MD

A BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

Chicken barn Lat'g E

1/44



T-215

Langdon Farm complex

Talbot Co MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

Chicken BARN (FRONT) Looking NE

2/44



T-215

Langdon FARM complex

Talbot Co MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

Smokehouse Lookg SW

3/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM Complex

Talbot Co MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

Office Looking W

4/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

GRAINERY LOOK (W

5/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

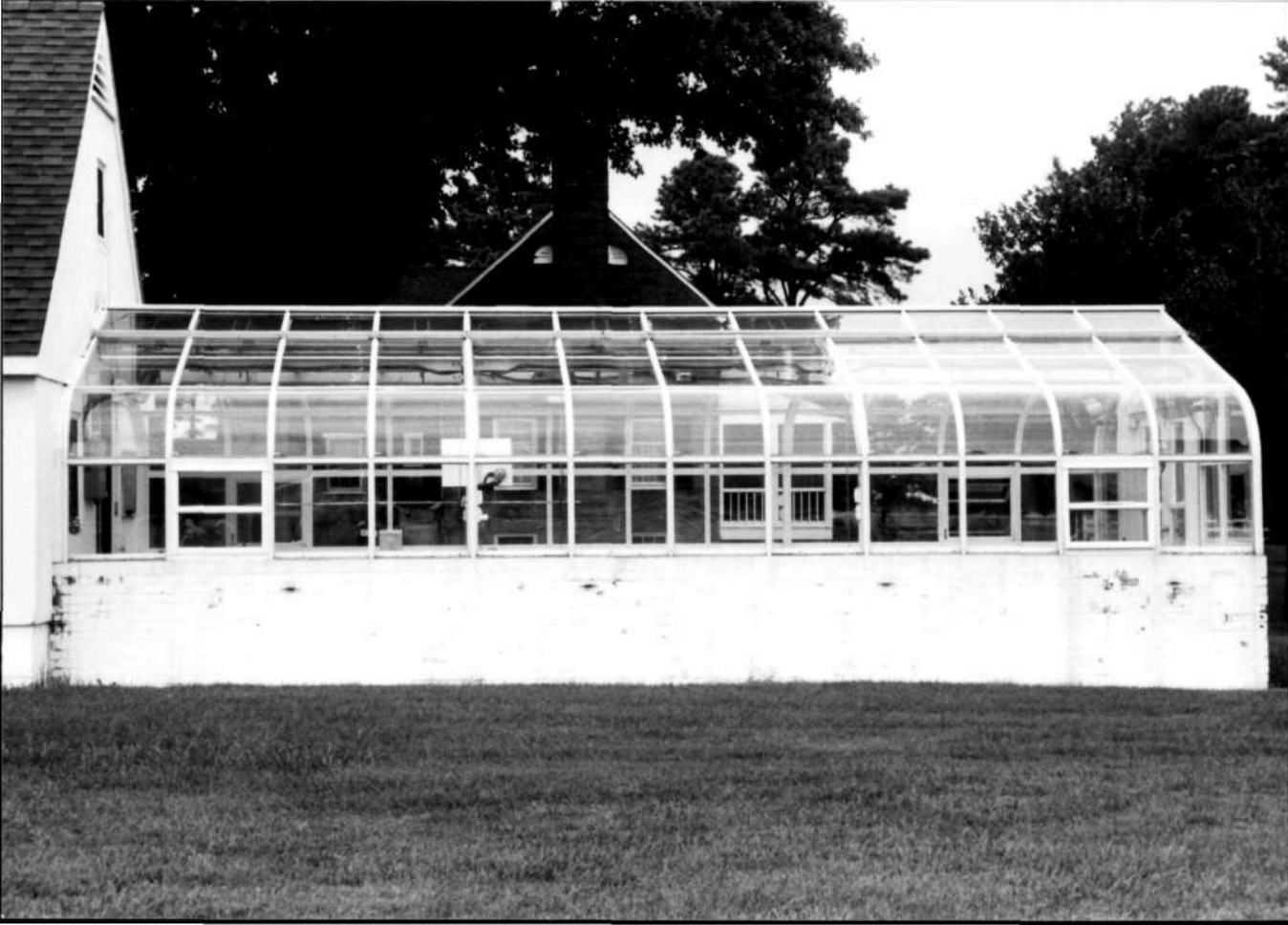
A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

Machine Shed look E

6/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

3/5/03

MD SHPO

GREENHOUSE LOOK'G N

7/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

B/S/O3

MD SHPO

STABLE LOOK W

8/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co MD

A. BARNES

B/S103

MD SHPO

BARN Look SW

9/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

BARN LOOKING S

10/44



T- 215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

B/S/03

MD SHPO

TENANT HOUSE looking SW

11/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHIP

OVERALL PICTURE of complex

12/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

Chicken barn looking E

13/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

Stable Lookg S

14/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

3/5/03

MD SHPO

stable / storage Look SW

15/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co MD

A. BARNES

B/5/03

MD SHPD

GREEN HOUSE + chicken BARN
Looking NW

16/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

3/5/03

MD SHPO

GREEN HOUSE + CHICKEN BARN LOOK SW

17/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHED

Smokehouse Looking W

18/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

MEAT SAFE door mechanism detail

19/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD
A. BARNES

3/5/03

MD SHPO

MEAT RAIL + OFFICE RAFTERS

20/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

B/S103

MD SHPO

WORK SHOP INTERIOR

21/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM Complex

Talbot Co. MD

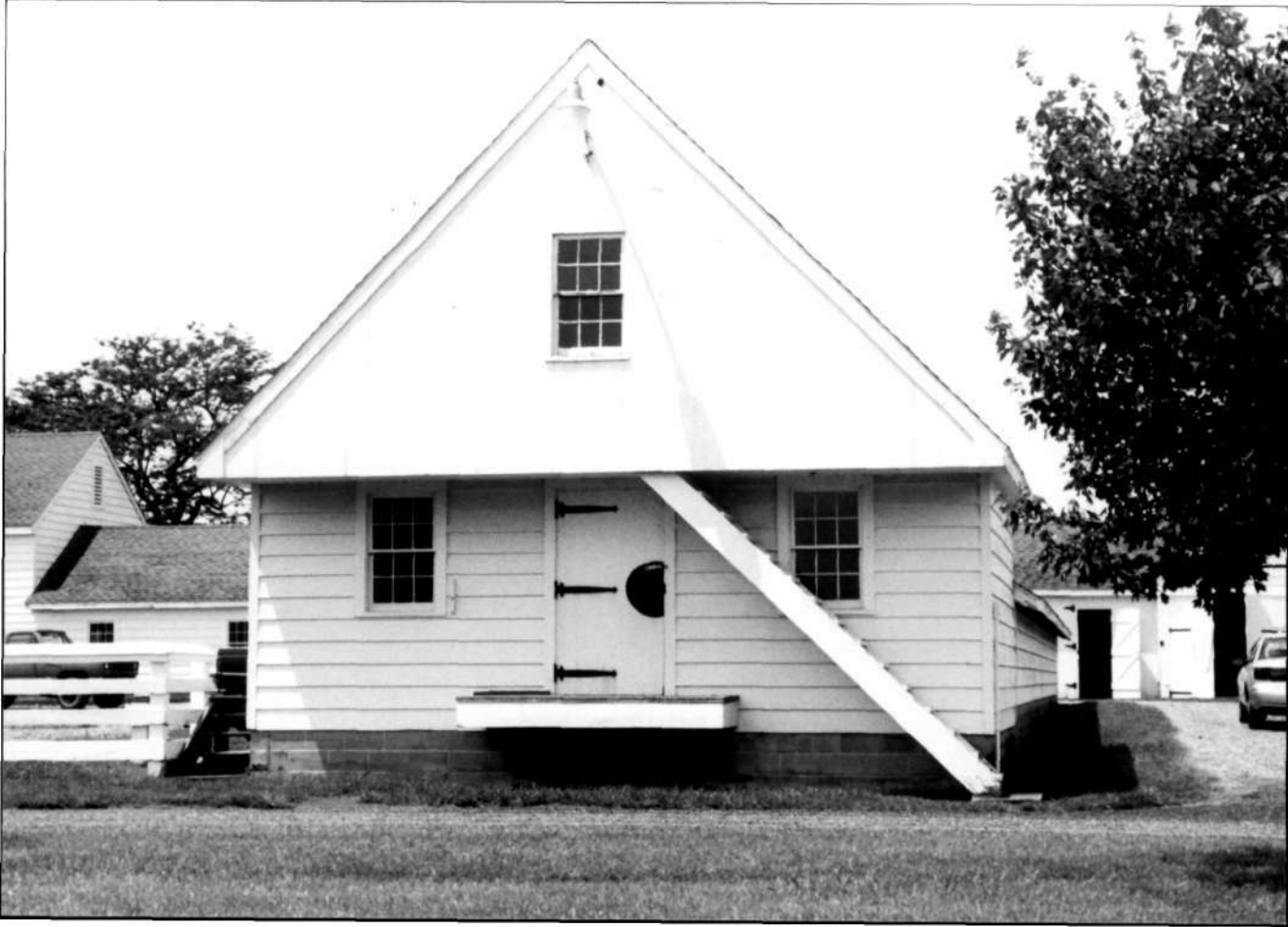
A. BARNES

B/S/03

MD SHPO

Office Look SVU

22/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

GRANERY Looking W

23/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

MACHINE Shed and GRANERY Look E

24/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

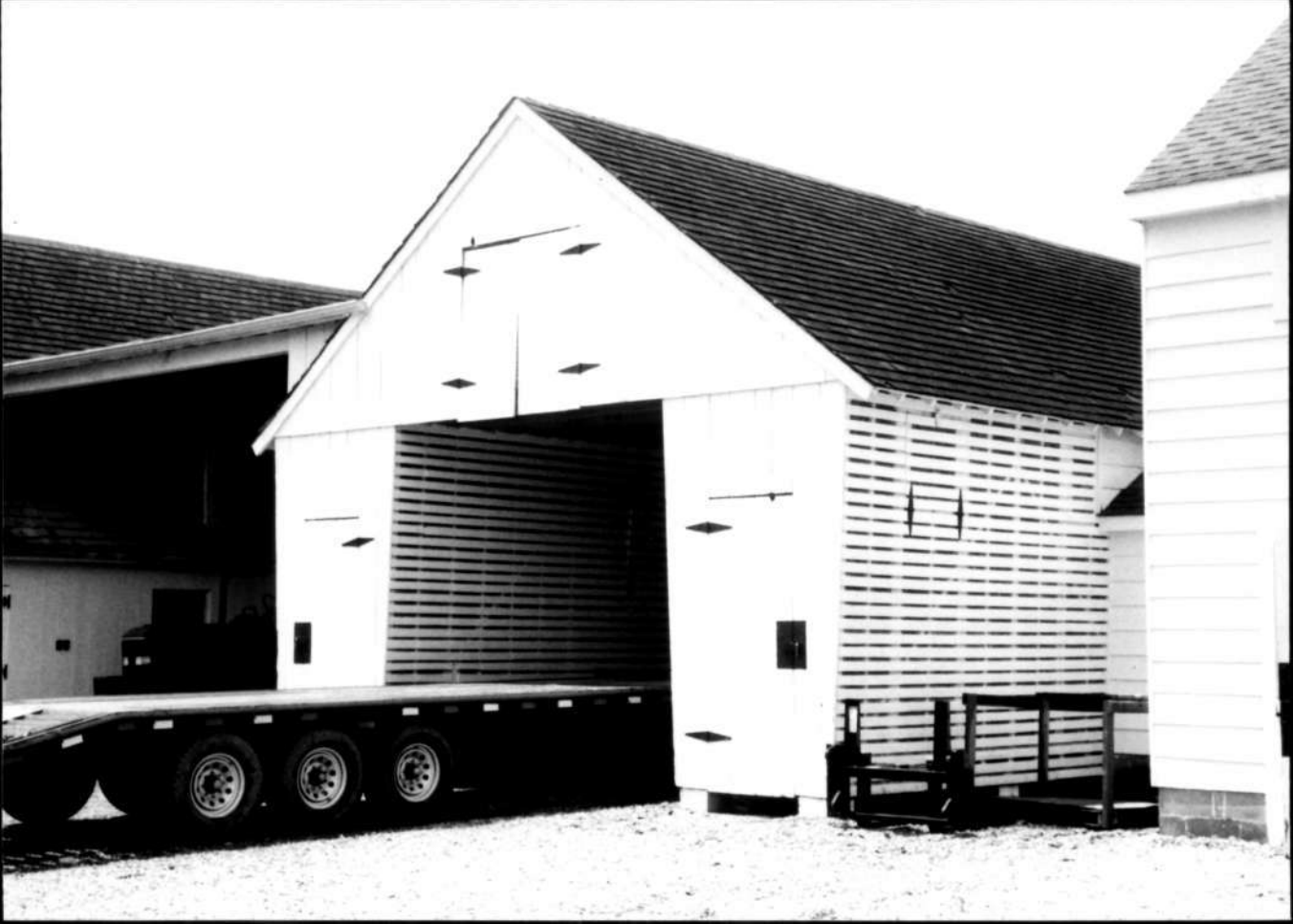
A BARNES

8/5/03

MP SHPO

machine shed and granery Lookg SW

25/44



T-215

Langdon Farm complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

DRIVE THRU CORN CRIB LOOK SW

26/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM Complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

BARN LOOK₂S

27/44



T-215

Langdon Farm Complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BAKER

8/5/03

MD SHPO

GRANERY LOT N (INTERIOR)

28/44



T-215

LANODON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A. BARNES

3/5/03

MD SHPO

GRANARY bin detail Look SE

29/
44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot CO MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

BARN INTERIOR LWS S

30/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co MD

A. BARNES

8/5/03

MD SHPO

CATTLE PEN LOOK'G W

3 1/4



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co MD

A. BARNES

8/6/03

MD SHPO

daylight INTERIOR LOOKING E

32/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM Complex

Talbot Co MD

A. SARNAS

8/6/03

MD SHPD

AFTER DETAIL WORK J LW

33/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co. MD

A BALNE

8/6/03

IND STIR

BARN 3/4 VIEW LONG E

34/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM Complex

Talbot Co MD

* BARNES

3/6/03

1115 SHAW

Rank & outbuildings Lot 1 NE

35/44



T-212

21901001 FAKI 1 complex

Talbot Co MD

H. BARTIS

8/6/03

MD SHAD

BARN A EDUCATION. LA / ST

36/44



T-215

1 AMBULATORY + ART Complex

Felton Co MD

H. BARNES

8/6/03

110 SHED

Con + for the West interior corner

Construction detail Looking W

37/44



-215

LAWSON FARM Complex

Tullock Co MD

A. JAMES

3/16/23

110 CHUR

Stable 2700 detail 1000 S11

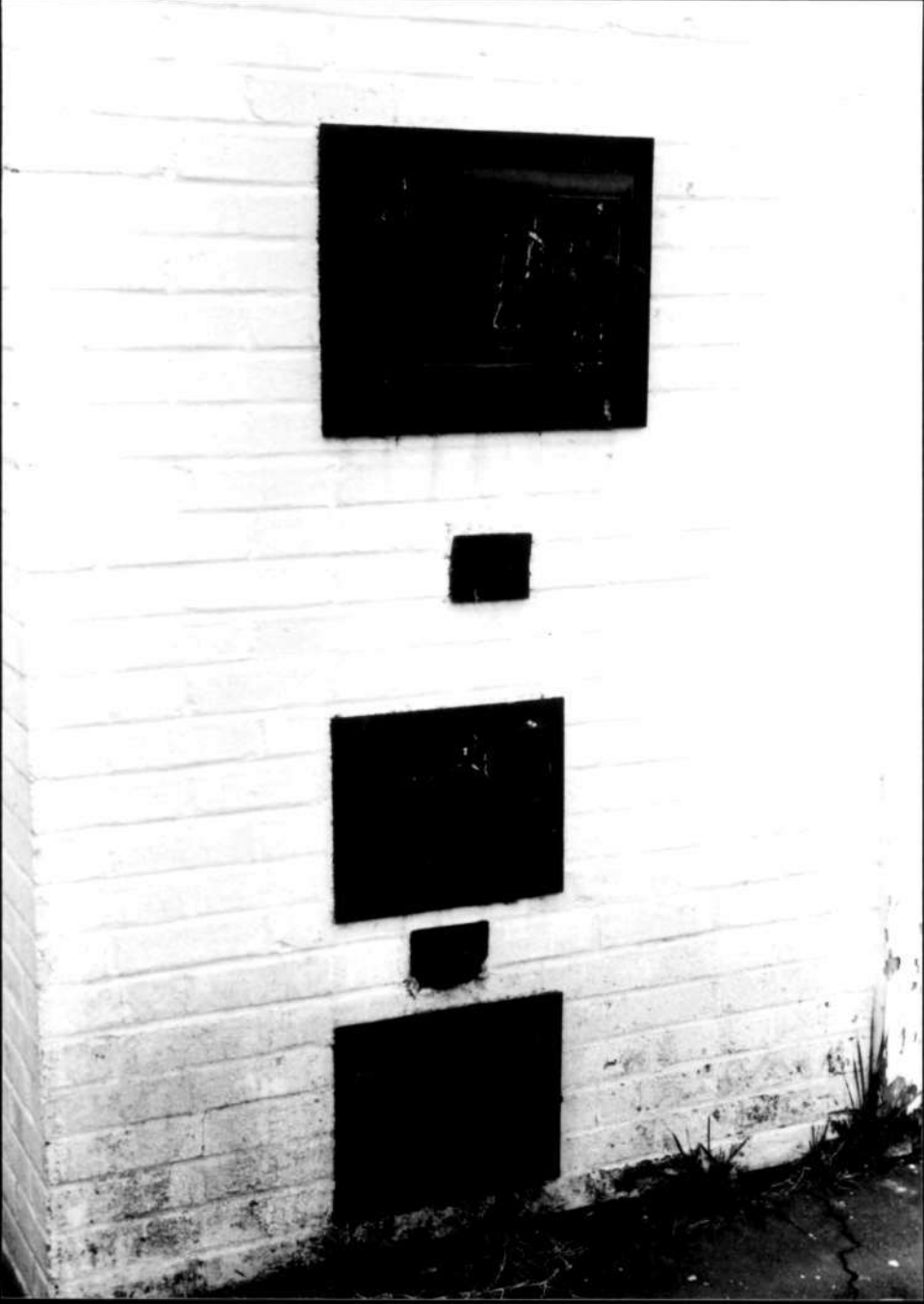
38/44



A BOUNCES

MUSAYU

39/44



T-215

LANEVIEW FARM complex

Talked to MD

A. BARNES

3/6/03

MD STAFF

Office memorandum does detail issue. It

40/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM - 1944

- 1st Co 132

A. BARKES

8/6/03

MD STRO

FARM complex looking S

9/1/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM

Talked to Mr

A. BARNES

3/8/55

MR SHRO

Sign Pos detail & wing F

42/44



T-215

LANGDON FARM complex

Talbot Co MD

A. KIRKING

8/6/55

MD SARV

TENANT HOUSE 3/21 1955

43/44



T-115

LANGDON Farm complex

TALLOT to MD

H. BARNES

3/6/68

MD SH to

TENANT HOUSE 3/1 22 3 600 500

44/44

T-215

Bridges (Hebron, Langdon)
Near St. Michaels
Private

Circa 1802; 1932

Bridges, known today as Langdon, was built by Daniel Lambdin sometime prior to 1804. The tax assessment of that year describes "Bridges Chance" as being improved by a "new brick dwelling with brick kitchen adjacent." In 1809 Lambdin devised the property to his daughters, Sarah Seth and Ann Winchester. The SETHs took up residence here and renamed it Hebron after the biblical city south of Jerusalem. The original house, now the central section of a five-part composition, is a late-Georgian-style, two-story, three-bay brick structure. The main facade is laid in Flemish bond, and has a central entrance. Following Georgian architectural principals, the first-story windows are longer than those on the second story. A bold cornice runs along the roof line, and two large chimneys rise flush above the gable ends. In 1932 the Gillespie family of Pittsburgh converted the house into the present mansion through the addition of hyphens and wings. Today the house, grounds, and Seth family graveyard with its ornamental brick wall are in a good state of repair and well maintained.

B. Sun
10. 17. 71

Langdon
T

THE SUN, BALTIMORE, SUN

CATONSVILLE
DELIVERY

complete
en. Open

to North
rn left to

922-6362



THOMAS J. WATSON, JR.

IBM Head Buys Shore Mansion

Thomas J. Watson, Jr., former IBM chairman and head of the corporation's executive committee, has purchased an historic Eastern Shore estate in Talbot county near St. Michaels.

The property is "Langdon," an Eighteenth Century mansion enlarged in the 1930's by a member of the Mellon family of Pittsburgh and including about 243 acres of waterfront property near Sherwood, Md.

Mr. Watson paid the former owner, Dr. Alvin E. Strock, of Talbot county, \$675,000 for the estate, according to Horace Post, the executive's private secretary.

Langdon was advertised as an auction property by a Philadelphia firm in mid-summer, but was withdrawn from auction a few days prior to a scheduled public sale set for July 3 on the site.

No Firm Plans

The IBM executive has "no firm plans" at this time for the estate property, said Mr. Post, who added that Mr. Watson was attracted to the estate and bought it "before someone else did." Mr. Watson will retain his present home at Greenwich, Conn., the private secretary reported. He also has a summer home near North Haven, Maine., and a ski lodge near Stowe, Vt.

The central portion of the Eastern Shore estate was built in 1783 and was acquired by the Mellon family in 1929. Two wings were added to the central portion in 1932. The estate was the home of Miss Mabel L. Gillespie, Pittsburgh socialite.

Langdon is about 2½ miles south of Wittman on the Tilgman Island road (Route 33) and includes about two miles of deep water frontage on Harris creek and Dun cove, plus a 226-foot docking pier.

Nearby is "Avalon," another Mellon estate on the Tilgman Island neck. It was built about 50 years ago by Andrew Mellon, the Pittsburgh financier and philanthropist.

Langdon
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